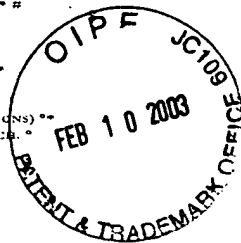


DR. ING. G. MODIANO**
DR. ING. A. JOSIF**
DR. ING. M. PISANTY**
DR. ING. G. STAUB**
DIPLO. ING. P. FARAGO**
M. SAND, PH.D.
D. O'BYRNE, B.Sc.**
M. N. MODIANO, M.Sc.(HONS)**
G. D. MODIANO, B.A. MECH.**
DR. ING. A. SANCHINI
W. VON ARNIM, PHARM.
DR. G. BIAGINI
DR. ING. N. ZANOTTI**
S. L. A. MODIANO**



January 9, 2003

Mr. Carl L. Johnson
JACOBSON AND JOHNSON
Suite 285
One West Water Street
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55107-2033
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Re: European Patent Application No. 02017633.5
filed on August 6, 2002
in the name of KING TECHNOLOGY, INC.
Your Ref.: 5642 - Our Ref.: 2346/SS/rg

RECEIVED

FEB 12 2003
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Enclosed herewith please find the **partial Search Report** received from the Search Administration of the EPO, in The Hague. The cited references are also enclosed.

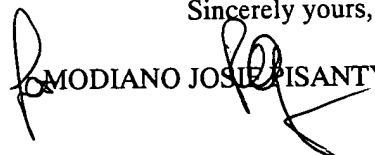
You have six months from the date on which the European Patent Bulletin mentions the publication of this Search Report, to request examination and to pay the fee.

This publication has not occurred yet.

We shall inform you in due course as to when this publication occurs in the European Patent Bulletin.

Please note that, due to the large number of possible options recited in claims 1-6, 15-19 and 21-27, the search has been carried out only for certain claims, which are deemed to be clear and concise, i.e. claims 7-14 and claim 20. The claims for which a meaningful search has not been carried out, instead, are deemed to lack clarity and conciseness within the meaning of Art. 84 EPC; in fact, the requirements of this Art. 84 are not met when a large number of possibilities within a claim makes it unduly burdensome (if not impossible) to determine the subject matter for which protection is sought.

Sincerely yours,


MODIANO JOSIF PISANTY & STAUB



ART CITED

X or Y: Please note that the art cited is considered as particularly relevant by the searcher.

The Examiner, who is a different person, may have a different opinion.

A : Please note that the art cited is considered as just a technological background.

The Examiner, who is a different person, may have a different opinion.

Moreover, the Examiner may cite a different, more pertinent art.